



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE

UNITED STATES

ROBERT DOUGLAS CANTON  
HUGHES AIRCRAFT COMPANY  
FIVE FIVE ZERO ALTO SQUARE  
BOSTON 11 MASSACHUSETTS  
FIELD OFFICE 02118-0001

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	DATE MAILED
08/060,480	06/10/76	024	CHIEF A	07/07/80
First Named Applicant	CANTON, ROBERT DOUGLAS			

TITLE OF INVENTION: SYSTEM FOR TELECOMMUNICATING IN WHICH CONFERENCE TYPES AND PARTICIPANTS BY NAMES OR TERMS ARE SELECTED BY A PARTICIPANT OF THE TELECOMMUNICATION SYSTEM

ATTY'S DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	FEE DUE	DATE DUE
2	2000-001/000	075-000,340	002	UTILITY	YES	\$660.00
						01/04/92

**THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.**

**THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.**

**HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:**

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

- A. If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or
- B. If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or

B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.

II. Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number.

Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.**



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

SERIAL NUMBER

FIRST NAMED APPLICANT

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.

08/660,880 06/10/96 LUGWIG

L VCOR-001/080

EXAMINER

LM21/1002

COOLEY GODWARD CASTRO  
HUDDLESON & TATUM  
FIVE PALO ALTO SQUARE  
3000 EL CAMINO REAL  
PALO ALTO CA 94306

CHEN, A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2782

DATE MAILED

10/02/98

### NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY

#### PART I.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to telephone Interview on 9/30/98.
2. ☒ All the claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice Of Allowance And Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be sent in due course.
3. ☒ The allowed claims are 29, 30, 32-43 and 45-54 renumbered as 1, 2, 4, 3 and 5-24.
4. ☐ The drawings filed on \_\_\_\_\_ are acceptable.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of the claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. 119. The certified copy has ☐ been received, ☐ not been received. ☐ been filed in parent application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed on \_\_\_\_\_.
6. ☒ Note the attached Examiner's Amendment.
7. ☒ Note the attached Examiner Interview Summary Record, PTOL-413.
8. ☒ Note the attached Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance.
9. ☐ Note the attached NOTICE OF REFERENCES CITED, PTO-892.
10. ☐ Note the attached INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION, PTO-1449.

#### PART II.

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE to comply with the requirements noted below is set to EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE "DATE MAILED" indicated on this form. Failure to timely comply will result in the ABANDONMENT of this application. Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

1. ☐ Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION, PTO-152, which discloses that the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.
2. ☒ APPLICANT MUST MAKE THE DRAWING CHANGES INDICATED BELOW IN THE MANNER SET FORTH ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS PAPER.
  - a. ☒ Drawing informalities are indicated on the NOTICE RE PATENT DRAWINGS, PTO-948, attached hereto or to Paper No. 4. CORRECTION IS REQUIRED.
  - b. ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ has been approved by the examiner. CORRECTION IS REQUIRED.
  - c. ☐ Approved drawing corrections are described by the examiner in the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT. CORRECTION IS REQUIRED.
  - d. ☒ Formal drawings are now REQUIRED.

Any response to this letter should include in the upper right hand corner, the following information from the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE: ISSUE BATCH NUMBER, DATE OF THE NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE, AND SERIAL NUMBER.

#### Attachments:

- ☒ Examiner's Amendment
- ☒ Examiner Interview Summary Record, PTOL-413
- ☒ Reasons for Allowance
- ☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Information Disclosure Citation, PTO-1449
- ☐ Notice of Informal Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Notice re Patent Drawings, PTO-948
- ☐ Listing of Bonded Draftsmen
- ☐ Other

THOMAS C. LEE  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
GROUP 2700

Application/Control Number: 08/660,880

Page 2

Art Unit: 2782

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Craig P. Opperman on September 30, 1998.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

#### In the Claims

✓  
Cancel claims 31 and 44 without prejudice.

✓  
Claim 45, line 1, delete "claim 44", and substitute therefor, --claim 42---.

1  
~~29~~. (Amended) A teleconferencing system

for conducting a teleconference

among a plurality of participants comprising:

E 1  
(a) a plurality of video display devices each having associated

(i) participant video capture capabilities, and

(ii) participant audio

(1) capture and

67

Art Unit: 2782

- (2) reproduction capabilities; and
- (b) at least one communication path
  - (i) along which signals
    - (1) representing participant audio and video
    - (ii) can be transmitted;

wherein the system is configured to display,

- (i) a first and a second set of potential participants

in which

- (1) the first set includes names of potential participants and
  - (2) the second set includes icons representing potential participants, and
- (ii) a set of collaboration types;

wherein the system is further configured to allow a selecting participant

- (i) to initiate
    - (1) collaboration
  - (ii) by selecting
    - (1) one or more participants
      - i. from the displayed sets of potential participants, and
    - (2) at least one collaboration type
      - i. from the displayed set of collaboration types, and
- thereby

Art Unit: 2782

- (iii) establish communication
  - (1) of the selected type,
  - (2) with each selected participant.

2

~~30~~. (Amended) The teleconferencing system of claim ~~29~~<sup>1</sup>, wherein the second set of participants is a subset of participants, and wherein, the system allows the selecting participant to :

- (a) select
  - (i) one or more desired participants
  - (ii) from the first set of the potential participants; and
- (b) select
  - (i) one or more desired participants
  - (ii) from the second set of potential participants, and  
thereby
- (c) establishing communication
  - (i) with all selected participants.

13

~~42~~. (Amended) A method for conducting a teleconference among a plurality of participants, each having an associated video capture and display and audio capture and reproduction capabilities, the method comprising the steps of:

Art Unit: 2782

(a) displaying

(i) a first and a second set of potential participants

in which

(1) the first set includes names of potential participants and

(2) the second set includes icons representing potential participants, and

(ii) a set of collaboration types;

(b) selecting

(i) one or more participants

(ii) from among a plurality of the displayed sets of potential participants;

E<sup>2</sup>  
(c) selecting

(i) a desired collaboration type

(ii) from among a plurality of the displayed collaboration types; and

(d) establishing communication

(i) of the selected type,

(ii) with the selected participant

to define a teleconference call.

14

43. (Amended)

13

The method of claim 42,

wherein the second set is a subset of the first set,

the method further comprising the steps of:

82

Art Unit: 2782

- E<sup>2</sup>
- (a) selecting
    - (i) one or more desired participants
    - (ii) from the first set of potential participants; and
  - (b) selecting
    - (i) one or more desired participants
    - (ii) from the second set of potential participants;  
and thereby
  - (d) establishing communications
    - (i) with all selected participants.

2<sup>3</sup>

~~53~~. (Amended) A teleconferencing system

for conducting a teleconference  
among a plurality of participants comprising:

- E<sup>3</sup>
- (a) a plurality of video display devices each having associated
    - (i) participant video capture capabilities, and
    - (ii) participant audio
      - (1) capture and
      - (2) reproduction capabilities;
  - (b) at least one communication path
    - (i) along which signals
      - (1) representing participant audio and video

83

Art Unit: 2782

- (ii) can be transmitted;
- (c) an A/V switching circuitry
- (i) to provide port-to-port connections for
- (1) signals transmitted
- (2) between the participants; and
- wherein the system is configured to allow a selecting participant
- (i) to initiate
- (1) any of a plurality of types of collaboration
- (ii) by selecting
- (1) one or more desired participants
- from among a plurality of potential participants; and
- (2) desired collaboration type
- from among a set of collaboration types, including, at least one of,
- data conferencing, videoconferencing, telephone conferencing, the
- sending of faxes and the sending of multimedia mail messages; and
- (iii) establishing communication
- (1) of the selected type,
- (2) with the selected participant(s).
- E<sup>3</sup>



Art Unit: 2782

24

~~54~~: (Amended) A method for conducting a teleconference

among a plurality of participants, each having an associated video capture and display and audio and video AV capture and reproduction capabilities, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) selecting
- (i) one or more desired participants
  - (ii) from among a plurality of potential participants;
- (b) selecting
- (i) desired collaboration type
  - (ii) from among a plurality of collaboration types,
    - (1) including data conferencing, videoconferencing, telephone conferencing, the sending of faxes and the sending of multimedia mail messages; and
- (c) producing signals
- (i) representative of the selected collaboration type; and
- (d) switching produced signals by an A/V switching circuitry to provide port-to-port connections
- (i) between the participants
  - (ii) to establish communication
    - (1) of the selected type,
    - (2) with the selected participant(s).

E<sup>3</sup>

85

Art Unit: 2782

**In the Title**

3. Pursuant to MPEP 606.01, the title has been changed to read:

“SYSTEM FOR TELECONFERENCING IN WHICH COLLABORATION TYPES AND PARTICIPANTS BY NAMES OR ICONS ARE SELECTED BY A PARTICIPANT OF THE TELECONFERENCE.”

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As to claims 29 and 42, no prior art of record, individually or in combination, teaches or suggests the displaying of names and icons of potential participants.

As to claims 53 and 54, no prior art of record, individually or in combination, teaches or suggests, the direct port-to-port connections by the switching circuitry (as defined by the Applicant's disclosure) without the need of a server.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Art Unit: 2782

***Conclusion***

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anderson Chen whose telephone number is (703) 305-9395, and whose E-mail Address is anderson.chen@uspto.gov. The examiner can be normally be reached Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Thomas C. Lee, can be reached at (703) 305-9717.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600.

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

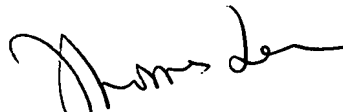
**or faxed to:**


(703) 308-9051, (for formal communications intended for entry)

**Or:**

(703)308-5359, (for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

  
THOMAS C. LEE  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
GROUP 2700

  
Anderson Chen  
September 30, 1998